DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DIVISION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REVISION TO GEORGIA'S STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (EPD) proposes a revision to Georgia's State Implementation Plan (SIP) for the Atlanta 1-hour ozone nonattainment area.

On September 26, 2003, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a final rulemaking action in the Federal Register (68 FR 55469) which included a determination that the Atlanta area had failed to attain the 1-hour ozone standard by the statutory deadline of November 1, 1999, and that by operation of law, the Atlanta area was being re-classified from a "serious" to a "severe" ozone nonattainment area effective January 1, 2004. The September 26, 2003, rulemaking required that the Atlanta SIP be revised, by July 1, 2004, to provide for offsetting any growth in emissions within the nonattainment area that results from growth in vehicle miles traveled (VMT). EPD is hereby proposing a VMT SIP to meet this requirement

This notice is being provided to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on a notification list. The notice and an exact copy of the proposed VMT SIP may be viewed at http://environet.dnr.state.ga.us/1. A copy of this notice together with an exact copy of the proposed VMT SIP may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia, 30354. Copies may also be requested by contacting the Air Protection Branch at 404/363-7000.

To provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed VMT SIP, a public hearing will be held at 7:00 p.m. on May 20, 2004, in the EPD Training Center located at 4244 International Parkway, Suite 116, Atlanta, Georgia 30354. At the public hearing anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument either orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted in writing for the official record. Oral statements should be concise.

Written comments are welcomed. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received by close of business on May 20, 2004. Written comments should be addressed to: Chief, Air Protection Branch, 4244 International Parkway, Suite 120, Atlanta, Georgia, 30354.

For further information, contact the Air Protection Branch at 404/363-7000.